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TITLE: **Rapamune** (RAPA, rapamycin, sirolimus): mechanism
of action immunosuppressive effect results from blockade
of
signal transduction and inhibition of cell cycle
progression.
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AB OBJECTIVE: Rapamune is a novel immunosuppressive agent in Phase III
clinical trial in renal transplantation. Its unique mechanism of action
has created great interest in its use as a biochemical probe of signal
transduction pathways that has provided insight into its molecular
mechanism of action. This article reviews the current state of our
understanding of the mechanism of action of rapamune.